

Message Text

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70

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 OPIC-03 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04

TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 FEA-01

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 430

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ETRD EEC UK

SUBJECT: UK TARIFF TREATMENT OF KRAFT LINERBOARD

REF: LONDON 1452

1. IN RESPONSE TO THE REQUEST CONTAINED IN THE LAST SENTENCE OF PARAGRAPH 2 OF REFTTEL, THE MISSION HAS CONDUCTED A FIRST PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION OF ITS FILES ON THE ARTICLE XXIV:6 NEGOTIATIONS. WE HAVE FOUND ALMOST NO REFERENCES TO DETAILED DEFINITION OF WHAT CONSTITUTES KRAFT LINER OR TO THE SPECIAL BRITISH PATTERN OF TARIFF CHANGES. THERE ARE NUMEROUS TELEGRAMS WHICH MAKE REFERENCE TO THE ITEM BUT THE PRINCIPAL POINTS AT ISSUE WERE THE DEPTH OF CUT, THE SCHEDULING OF REDUCTIONS AMONG THE SIX AND WHETHER OR NOT A TARIFF QUOTA WOULD HAVE BEEN ACCEPTABLE, E.G., THE NOTE DELIVERED IN LATE AUGUST 1973 BY THE UNITED STATES TO THE COMMISSION AND THE MEMBER STATES AS INSTRUCTED IN 73 STATE 169850. IN THE NOTE WHICH WAS DELIVERED IN JANUARY 1974, 74 STATE 3076, THE DEFINITION CONSISTS OF A REFERENCE TO THE CXT ITEM 48.01CII. A NUMBER OF MESSAGES USE

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THAT ITEM NUMBER AS THE PRINCIPAL DEFINITION

OF KRAFT LINER, E.G., 74 STATE 70874, 74 STATE 126516, AND
THE ENCLOSURES TO 74 STATE A-5043.

2. AS WE REMEMBER IT, THERE WAS AT ONE TIME SOME DISCUSSION OF
A TENTATIVE COMMISSION SUGGESTION TO SUB--DIVIDE THE KRAFT LINER
CATEGORY ACCORDING TO A EUROPEAN STRENGTH-TESTING STANDARD, BUT
WE HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO FIND CONFIRMATION OF THIS DISCUSSION
IN OUR RECORDS. IN ANY CASE, THE US PAPER INDUSTRY FELT THAT
SUCH A SUB-DIVISION WOULD NOT BE ADVANTAGEOUS.

3. OUR FIRST SEARCH OF THE FILES REINFORCES OUR RECOLLECTION
THAT UNDERLYING THE DISCUSSION WAS THE TACIT ASSUMPTION THAT
THE PATTERN OF US SHIPMENTS AND THE VOLUME OF OUR TRADE WAS
MOVING IN SUCH A WAY THAT THERE WAS LITTLE REASON TO EXPECT
THAT THE CXT DEFINITIONS AND THE SCHEDULE FOR BRITISH ALIGNMENT
ON THE CXT WOULD BRING FORTH THE PROBLEM THAT HAS NOW ARISEN
(EM.G. , ENCLOSURES TO 74 STATE A-1067).

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